Christian Reyes

“Reassigning Meaning” a passage by Simi Linton, talks about how society generalizes people with disabilities and how they are treated. Throughout the passage she takes a closer look on terms that we use that can have a positive or negative effect on those with disabilities such as the words physically challenged, which has a positive effect on those with disabilities because they have a sense that they are only held down by their physical world and not their social world, which helps them feel more “accepted” by others and deformed, which has a negative effect on those with disabilities because a word like that gives them a feeling of being social and physical abomination. Linton also stresses the way our society treated those with disabilities such as excluding them from a family or school picture or taking the picture of them without any showing of a disability giving them a feeling of social rejection because their disability isn’t embraced by their peers or families. The passage mainly gives a better view point on how those with disabilities are treated and how the usage of words can damage their self-esteem, things that should be kept in mind the next time they have an encounter with someone who has a disability.